

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5397–S5460*

**Measures Introduced:** Four bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1785–1788, and S. Res. 255. **Page S5443**

**Measures Passed:**

*Honoring Admiral Jeremy M. Boorda:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 255, to honor Admiral Jeremy M. "Mike" Boorda. **Pages S5410–12**

*Hate Crimes Statistics Act:* Senate passed S. 1624, to reauthorize the Hate Crime Statistics Act. **Pages S5458–59**

*Coastal Zone Management Reauthorizations:* Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1965, to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S5459–60**

**Congressional Budget:** Senate continued consideration of S. Con. Res. 57, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S5398–S5410, S5412–42**

**Adopted:**

Levin Amendment No. 4020, to express the sense of the Congress that amounts appropriated for the National Institutes of Health should be increased above its fiscal year 1996 appropriation for additional research into an anti-addiction drug to block the craving of illicit addictive substances. **Pages S5398–S5400**

Domenici (for Helms) Amendment No. 4021, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the extension of the employer education assistance exclusion under section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. **Pages S5400–01**

Domenici (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 4026, to express the sense of the Senate that the Economic Development Administration should place high priority on maintaining field-based economic development representatives. **Page S5439**

**Pending:**

Boxer Amendment No. 3982, to preserve, protect, and strengthen the Medicaid program by controlling costs, providing State flexibility, and restoring critical standards and protections, including coverage for all populations covered under current law, to restore \$18 billion in excessive cuts, offset by corporate and business tax reforms, and to express the sense of the Senate regarding certain Medicaid reforms. **Page S5398**

Wyden/Kerry Amendment No. 3984, to express the sense of the Senate regarding revenue assumptions. **Page S5398**

Wellstone Amendment No. 3985, to express the sense of the Senate on tax deductibility of higher education tuition and student loan interest costs. **Pages S5413–14**

Wellstone/Kerry Amendment No. 3986, to express the sense of the Senate that funds will be available to hire new police officers under the Community Oriented Policing Service. **Pages S5413, S5428–30**

Wellstone Amendment No. 3987, to express the sense of the Senate that Congress will not enact or adopt any legislation that would increase the number of children who are hungry or homeless. **Page S5413**

Wellstone Amendment No. 3988, to express the sense of the Senate with respect to maintaining current expenditure levels for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for fiscal year 1997. **Page S5398**

Wellstone Amendment No. 3989, to express the sense of the Senate with respect to the interrelationship between domestic violence and welfare. **Page S5413**

Kerry Amendment No. 3990, to restore proposed cuts in the environment and natural resources programs, to be offset by the extension of expired tax provisions or corporate and business tax reforms. **Page S5398**

Kerry Amendment No. 3991, to increase the Function 500 totals to maintain levels of education and training funding that will keep pace with rising school enrollments and the demand for a better-trained workforce, to be offset by the extension of expired tax provisions or corporate and business tax reforms. **Pages S5433–35**

Kyl Amendment No. 3995, to express the sense of the Senate regarding a supermajority requirement for raising taxes. **Page S5398**

Kyl Modified Amendment No. 3996, to providing funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program through fiscal year 2000. **Pages S5412–13**

Kennedy Amendment No. 3997, to express the sense of the Congress that the reconciliation bill should maintain the existing prohibition against additional charges by providers under the Medicare program. **Page S5398**

Kennedy Amendment No. 3998, to express the sense of the Congress that the reconciliation bill should not include any changes in Federal nursing home quality standards or the Federal enforcement of such standards. **Page S5398**

Kennedy Amendment No. 3999, to express the sense of the Congress that provisions of current Medicaid law protecting families of nursing home residents from experiencing financial ruin as the price of needed care for their loved ones should be retained. **Page S5398**

Kennedy Amendment No. 4000, to express the sense of the Senate relating to the protection of the wages of construction workers. **Page S5398**

Byrd Amendment No. 4001, to increase overall discretionary spending to the levels proposed by the President, offset by the extension of expired tax provisions or corporate and business tax reforms. **Page S5398**

Lott/Smith Modified Amendment No. 4002, to express the sense of the Congress regarding reimbursement of the United States for the costs associated with Operations Southern Watch and Provide Comfort out of revenues generated by any sale of petroleum originating from Iraq. **Pages S5439–40**

Simpson/Moynihan Amendment No. 4003, to express the sense of the Senate that all Federal spending and revenues which are indexed for inflation should be calibrated by the most accurate inflation indices which are available to the Federal government. **Page S5398**

Graham Amendment No. 4007, to create a 60 vote point of order against legislation diverting savings achieved through Medicare waste, fraud and abuse enforcement activities for purposes other than improving the solvency of the Medicare Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund. **Page S5428**

Ashcroft Modified Amendment No. 4008, to provide for an income tax deduction for the old age, survivors, and disability insurance taxes paid by employees and self-employed individuals. **Page S5398**

Gramm Amendment No. 4009, to express the sense of the Congress that the 1993 income tax increase on Social Security benefits should be repealed. **Page S5398**

Brown Amendment No. 4010, to express the sense of the Senate that there should be a cap on the application of the civilian and military retirement COLA. **Page S5398**

Harkin Amendment No. 4011, to provide that the first reconciliation bill not include Medicaid reform, focusing mainly on Welfare reform by shifting Medicaid changes from the first to the second reconciliation bill. **Page S5398**

Harkin (for Specter) Amendment No. 4012, to restore funding for education, training, and health programs to a Congressional Budget Office freeze level for fiscal year 1997 through an across the board reduction in federal administrative costs. **Pages S5420–21, S5440–41**

Bumpers Amendment No. 4013, to establish that no amounts realized from sales of assets shall be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues. **Page S5398**

Bumpers Amendment No. 4014, to eliminate the defense firewalls. **Page S5398**

Thompson Amendment No. 3981, to express the sense of the Senate on the funding levels for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. **Page S5398**

Murkowski Amendment No. 4015, to prohibit sense of the Senate amendments from being offered to the budget resolution. **Page S5398**

Simpson (for Kerrey) Amendment No. 4016, to express the sense of the Senate on long term entitlement reforms. **Page S5398**

Snowe Amendment No. 4017, to express the sense of the Senate that the aggregates and functional levels included in the budget resolution assume that savings in student loans can be achieved without any program change that would increase costs to students and parents or decrease accessibility to student loans. **Page S5398**

Chafee/Breaux Amendment No. 4018, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5399–S5410**

Domenici (for Dole/Hatch/Helms) Amendment No. 4019, to express the sense of the Senate that the Attorney General should investigate the practice regarding the prosecution of drug smugglers. **Page S5398**

Feingold Amendment No. 3969, to eliminate the tax cut. **Page S5398**

Domenici (for McCain) Amendment No. 4022, to express the sense of the Senate regarding Spectrum auctions and their effect on the integrity of the budget process. **Page S5424**

Domenici (for Faircloth) Amendment No. 4023, to express the sense of the Senate that any comprehensive legislation sent to the President that balances the budget by a certain date and that includes welfare reform provisions shall also contain to the maximum extent possible a strategy for reducing the rate of out-of-wedlock births and encouraging family formation.

Pages S5424–25

Domenici (for Faircloth) Amendment No. 4024, to express the sense of the Senate regarding reduction of the national debt.

Page S5425

Exon (for Roth) Amendment No. 4025, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the funding of Amtrak.

Pages S5431–33

Domenici Amendment No. 4027 (to Amendment No. 4012), to adjust the fiscal year 1997 non-defense discretionary allocation to the Appropriations Committee by \$5 billion in budget authority and \$4 billion in outlays to sustain 1996 post-OCRA policy.

Pages S5440–41

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

A point of order was not sustained that the pending concurrent resolution, as drafted, did not constitute a "budget resolution" and was therefore not in order.

Pages S5415–28, S5430–31, S5435

Senate will continue consideration of the resolution on Wednesday, May 22, 1996, with votes on the pending amendments to occur thereon.

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

23 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Pages S5457–58, S5460

**Communications:** Page S5443

**Executive Reports of Committees:** Page S5443

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** Pages S5443–49

**Additional Cosponsors:** Page S5449

**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S5449–52

**Notices of Hearings:** Page S5452

**Authority for Committees:** Page S5452

**Additional Statements:** Pages S5452–56

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9 a.m., and adjourned at 6:21 p.m., until 9:15 a.m., on Wednesday, May 22, 1996. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5460.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Brooksley Elizabeth Born, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman, and David D. Spears, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner, both of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Spears was introduced by Senator Dole and Representative Roberts.

### APPROPRIATIONS—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Foreign Operations held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on international financial institutions, receiving testimony from Robert E. Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, May 23.

### ROLE OF ABA IN JUDICIAL SELECTION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the role of the American Bar Association in the selection of Federal judges, after receiving testimony from Richard Thornburgh, former Attorney General of the United States; Judge Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Portland, Oregon; Judge John M. Walker, Jr., United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, New York, New York; Daniel E. Troy, Wiley, Rein & Fielding, Washington, D.C.; Nancy L. Iredale, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, Los Angeles, California; Daniel J. Meador, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, on behalf of the Miller Center Commission; and Roberta Cooper Ramo, Albuquerque, New Mexico, N. Lee Cooper, Birmingham, Alabama, and William E. Willis, Sullivan & Cromwell, New York, New York, all on behalf of the American Bar Association.

### VOLUNTARY ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded hearings on S. 582, to provide that certain voluntary disclosures of violations of Federal laws made pursuant to an environmental audit shall not be subject to discovery or admitted into evidence during a Federal